

consented, and traced in pencil, on paper I gave him, the route for four hundred leagues."

La Salle, under date of August 22, 1682, wrote in opposition to Du Luth engaging in trade, as follows: "But, if they go by way of the Ouisconsing, where for the present, the chase of the buffalo is carried on, and where I have commenced an establishment, they will ruin the trade, of which I am laying the foundation."¹

Du Luth was in France early in 1683, but in the spring returned to Canada. The Jesuit Engelran, on August 26, 1683, wrote that on the eighth of the month, Du Luth had left Mackinaw, with thirty men, by way of Green Bay, to trade with the Sioux. Before 1689, a trading-post or fort was established at the head-waters of the Saint Croix River, the point which in June, 1680, had been visited by Du Luth. It is marked on Franquelin's map.

In the spring of 1685, Nicholas Perrot was made commandant for the west, and the next winter he passed on the banks of the Mississippi, where he was first visited by the Ioways. Upon Franquelin's map of 1688, is marked the "butte," where the French wintered, not far from the Black River. La Potherie asserts, that they stopped where there were woods, at the foot of a high hill (*au pied d'une Montagne*), behind which was a large prairie.² Major Long, in his *Canoe Voyage of 1817*, writing of "*Montagne qui trempe l'eau*" refers to "high bluff lands, insulated by a broad, flat prairie."

Perrot was soon ordered to proceed with allies to join the French in the war against the Senecas of New York. In the fall of 1687, after ice had begun to form on the Fox River, Perrot passed down the Wisconsin, to the Mississippi River, and returned to the post on the east bank of the river,³ where in 1685-86, he had passed the winter.

¹ *Margry*, ii, p. 254.

² *La Potherie*, ii, Paris, 1722.

³ When Penicaut in 1700, passed through Lake Ban Secours, as Pepin until this period had been called, the fort was standing on the east shore. His words translated are: "To the right and left of its shores there are also prairies; in that on the right, on the Lake Shore, there is a fort, which was